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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



INFERNO™

X-MEN®

N'ASTIRH!
MR. SINISTER!
THE GOBLIN QUEEN!
THE MARAUDERS!
THIS ONE'S
GOT IT
ALL!



SILVESTRI
1989

STRIKE *the* MATCH

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION, STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN

The RAINBOW ROOM--

-- A MORE ROMANTIC SETTING AND MORE MAGICAL EVENING COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE IMAGINED...

... AS THE ORCHESTRA SLIDES SILKILY THROUGH ITS REPERTOIRE OF GLENN MILLER CLASSICS...

... WHILE ALEX SUMMERS AND MADELYNE PRYOR JOYOUSLY TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC ACROSS THE BALLROOM.

NORMALLY, THIS CLUB-- ATOP THE RCA BUILDING, ITSELF THE CENTERPIECE OF MANHATTAN'S FAR-FAMED ROCKEFELLER CENTER-- IS BOOKED SOLID, MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

TONIGHT, HOWEVER, IT'S EMPTY.

WHICH SUITS THESE TWO YOUNG LOVERS JUST FINE.

INFERNO
PART THE FIRST

CHRIS CLAREMONT
WRITER

MARC SILVESTRI
PENCILER

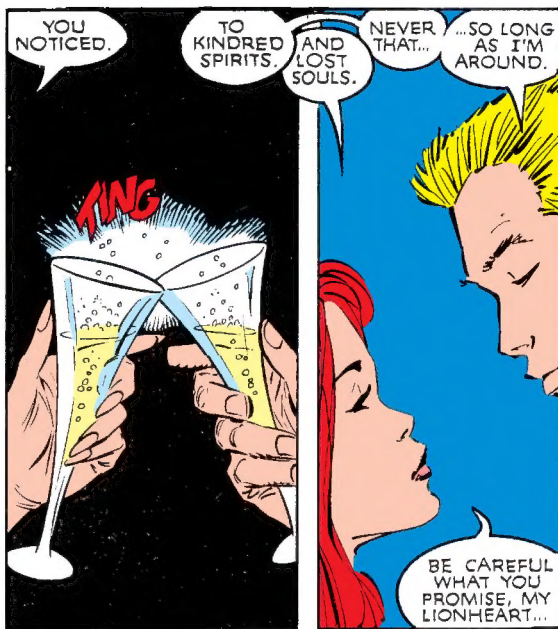
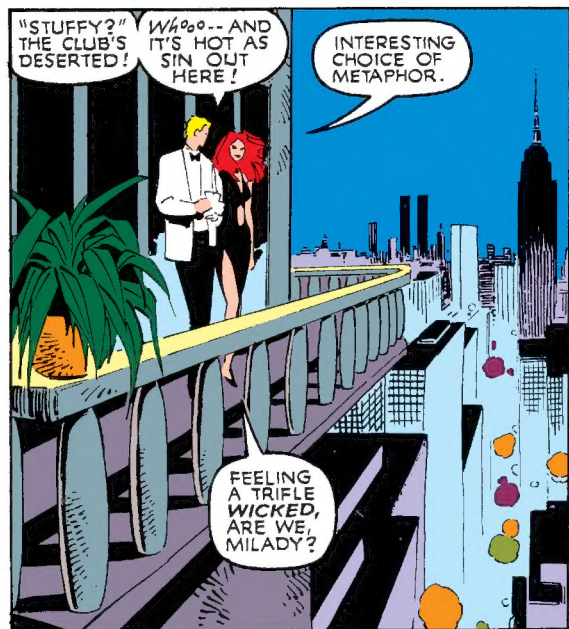
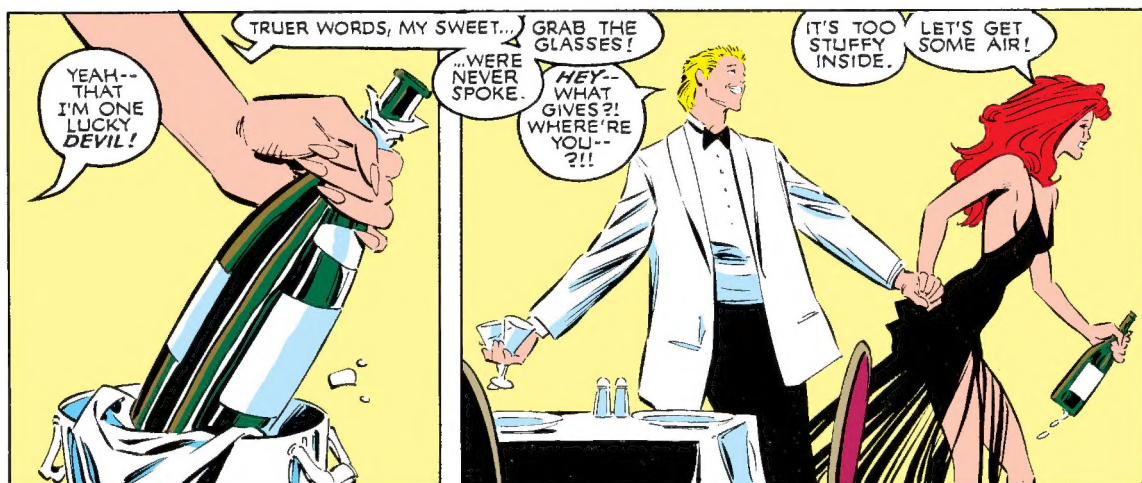
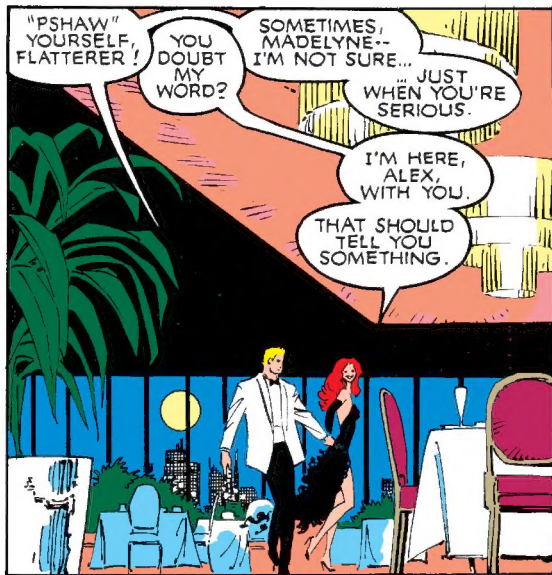
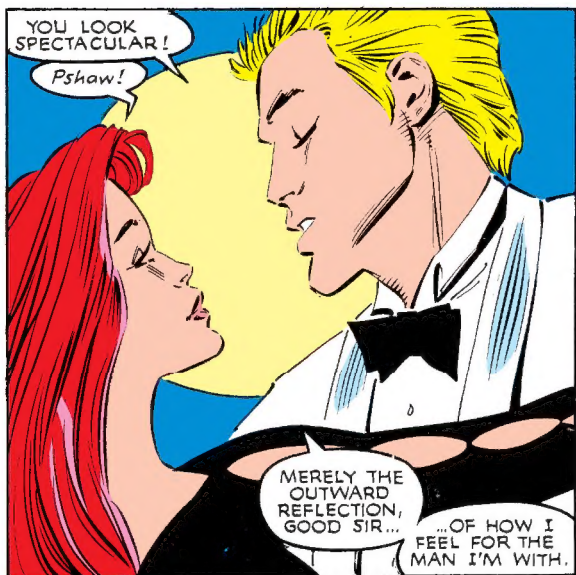
DAN GREEN
INKER

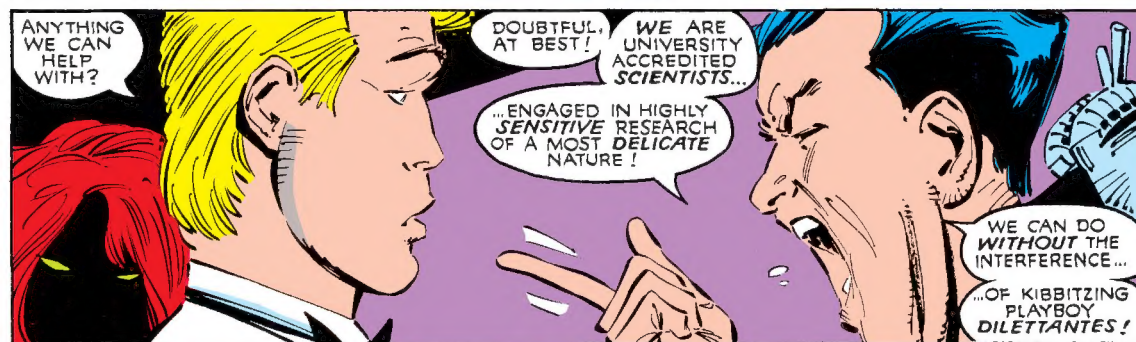
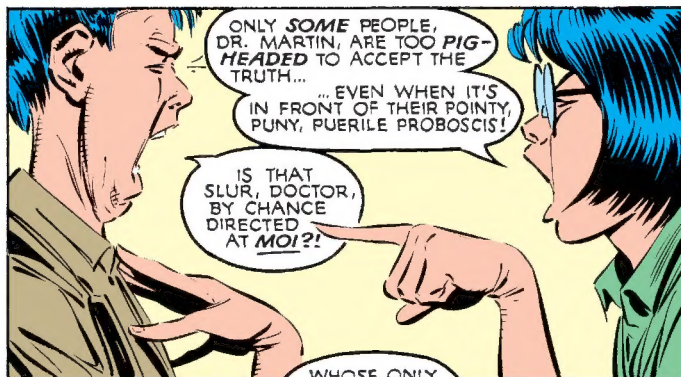
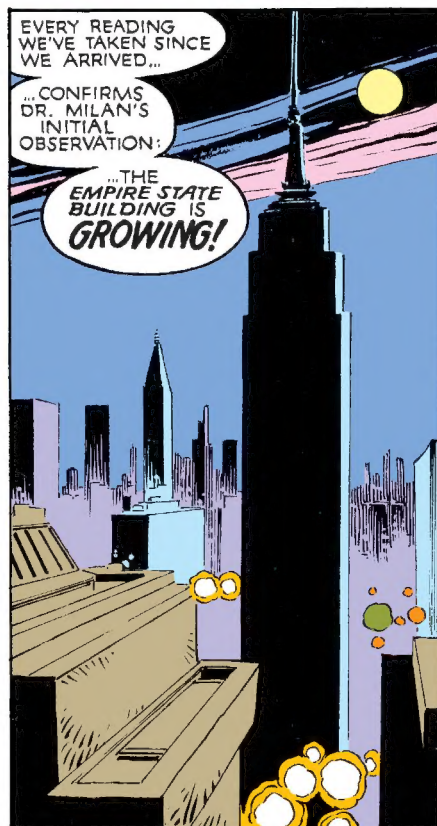
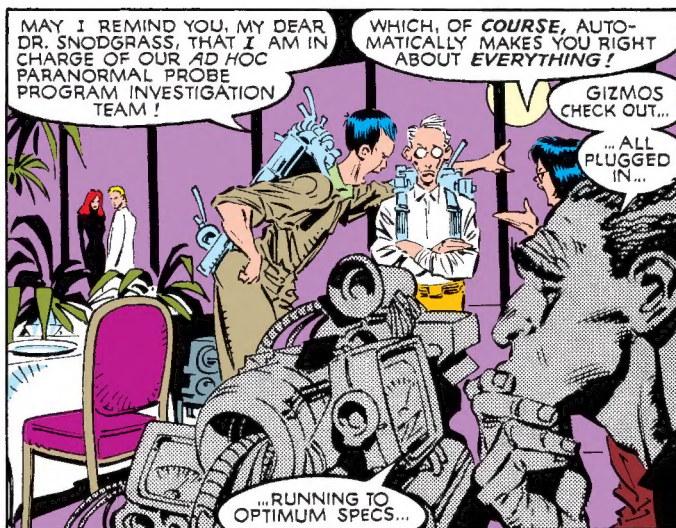
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COLORIST

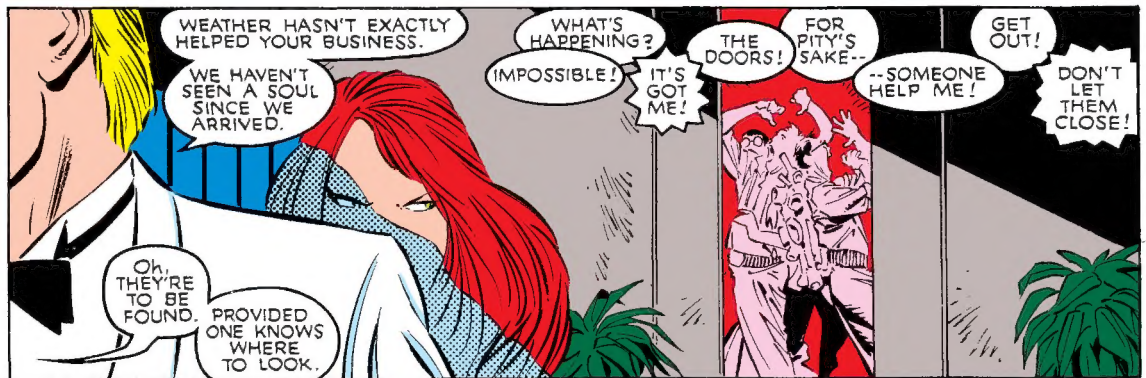
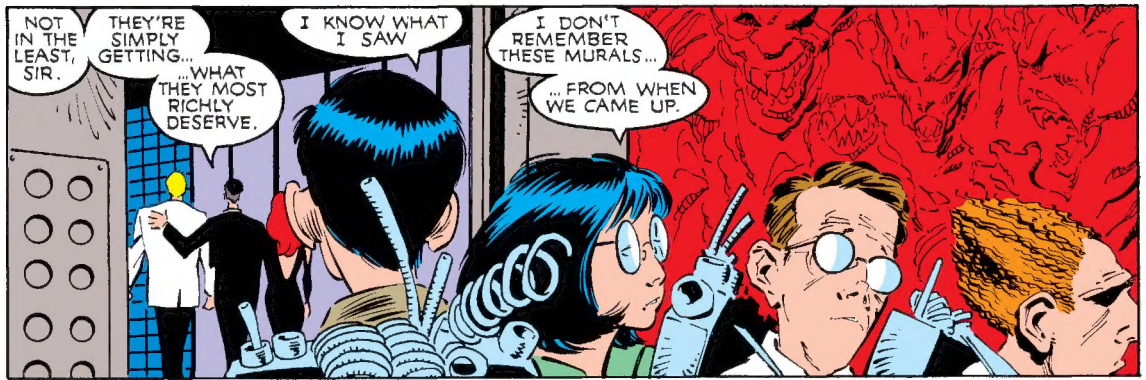
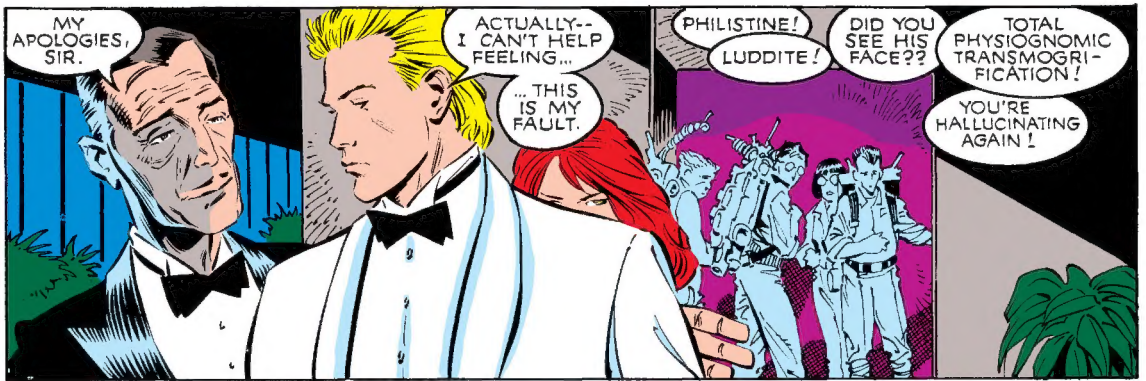
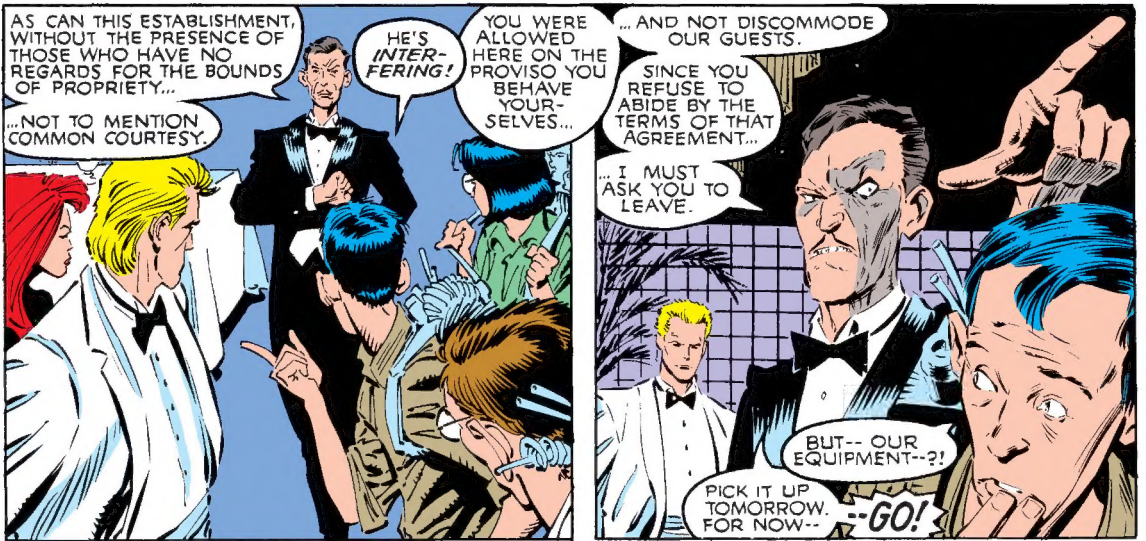
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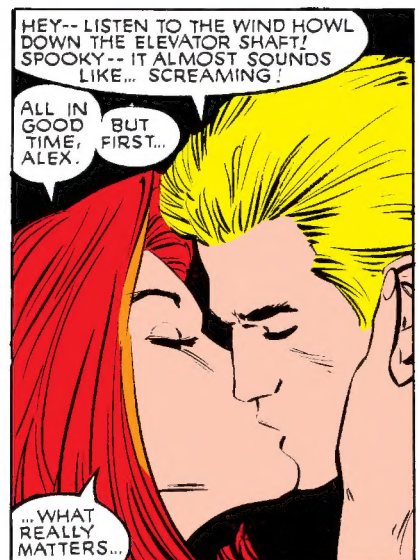
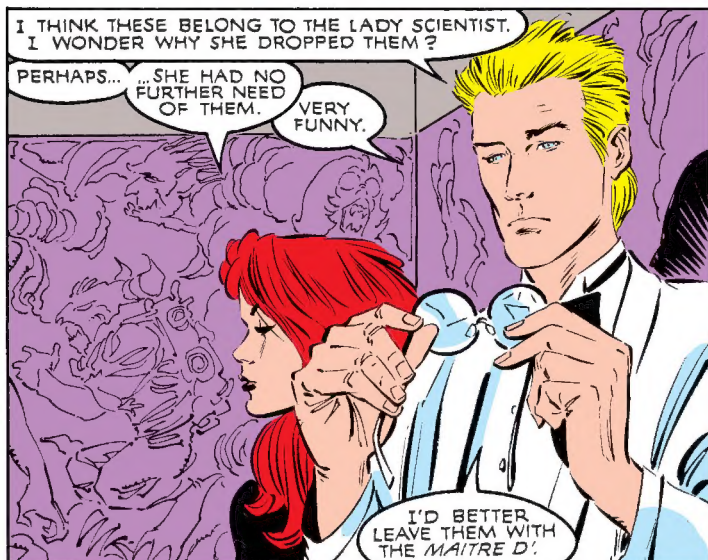
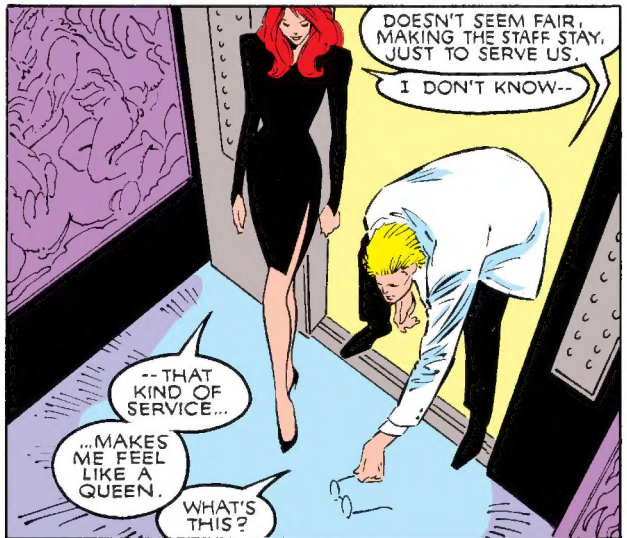
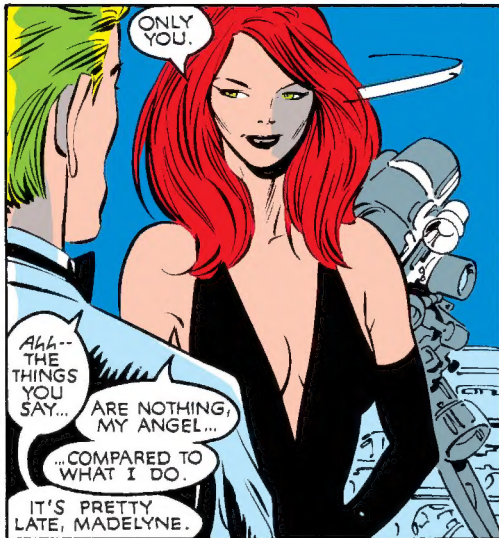
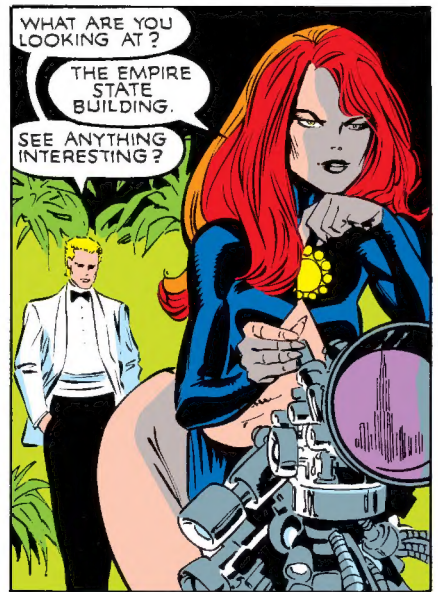
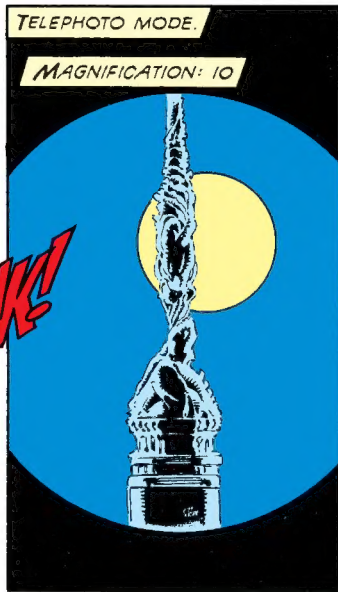
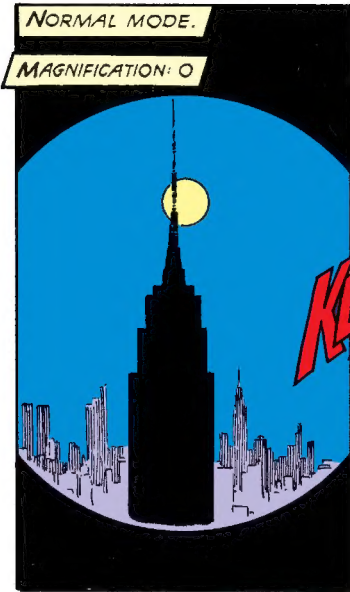
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EDITOR

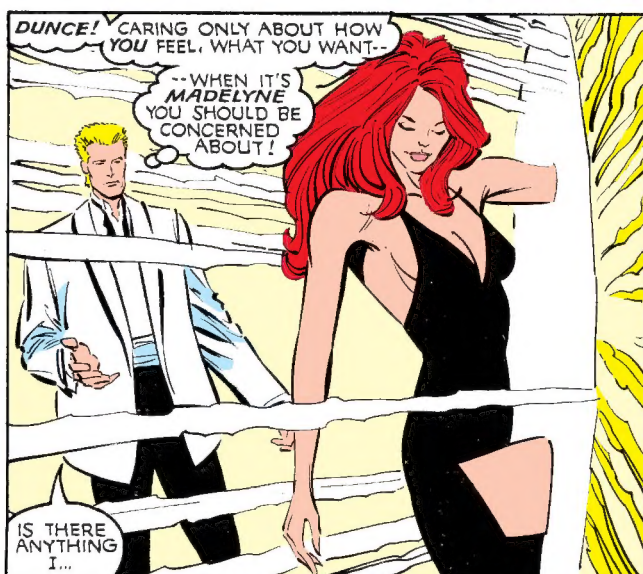
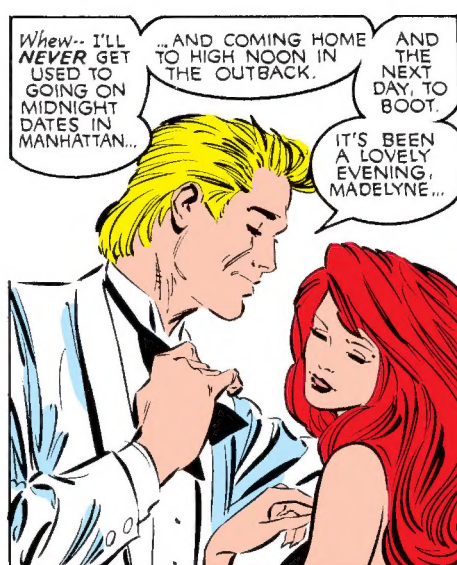
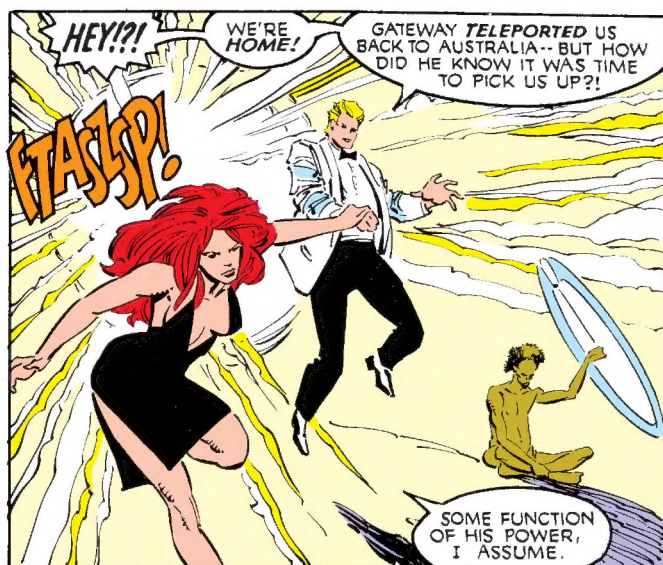
TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF













BARD COLLEGE.

ON ORDINARY NIGHTS, THE CEMETERY OF ST. STEPHEN'S CHAPEL IS THE MOST PEACEFUL OF PLACES...



...WHERE THE LIVING CAN FIND COMFORT AND SOLACE...

...IN THEIR MEMORIES OF THOSE WHO'VE GONE BEFORE.

MADELYNE PRYOR HAS NO SUCH LUCK.

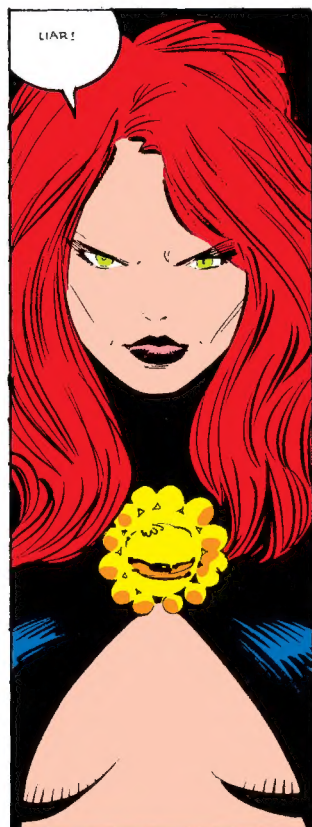


I LOVED YOU, JEAN.

I LOVE MADELYNE.

I'M GLAD SHE ISN'T YOU-- WHAT WE HAD WAS MAGIC, I'LL TREASURE IT ALWAYS-- BUT NOW MADELYNE AND I HAVE A CHANCE TO CREATE OUR OWN MAGIC, TO MAKE WHAT IS...

...AS UNIQUE AND SPECIAL AS WHAT WAS.



LIAR!



WILT THOU, SCOTT SUMMERS, HAVE THIS WOMAN TO BE THY WEDDED WIFE...

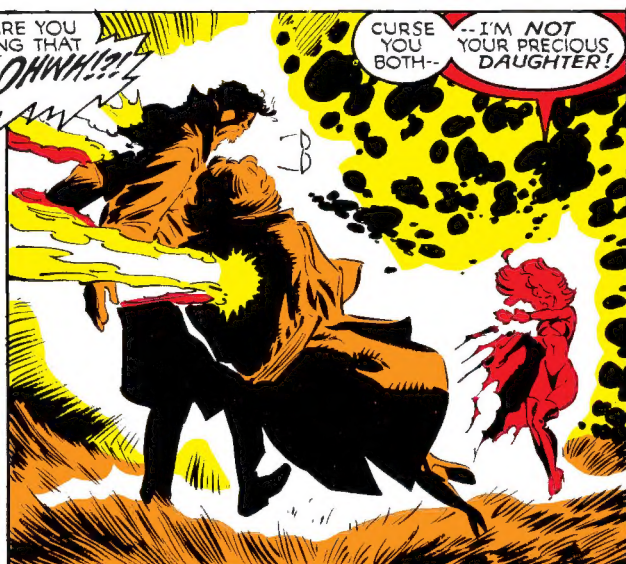
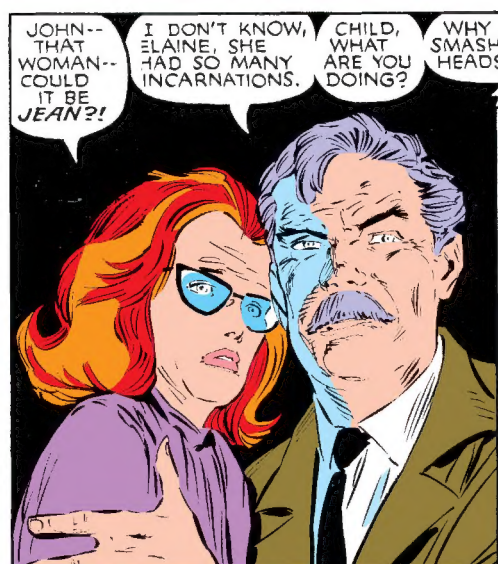
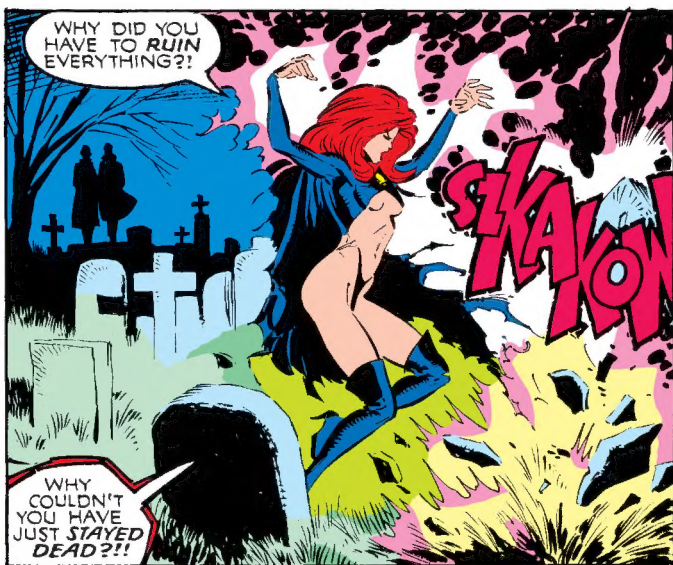
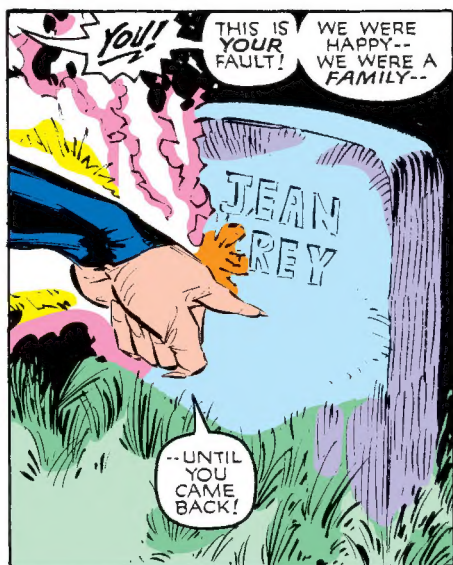
...TO LIVE TOGETHER AFTER GOD'S ORDINANCE IN THE HOLY ESTATE OF MATRIMONY?

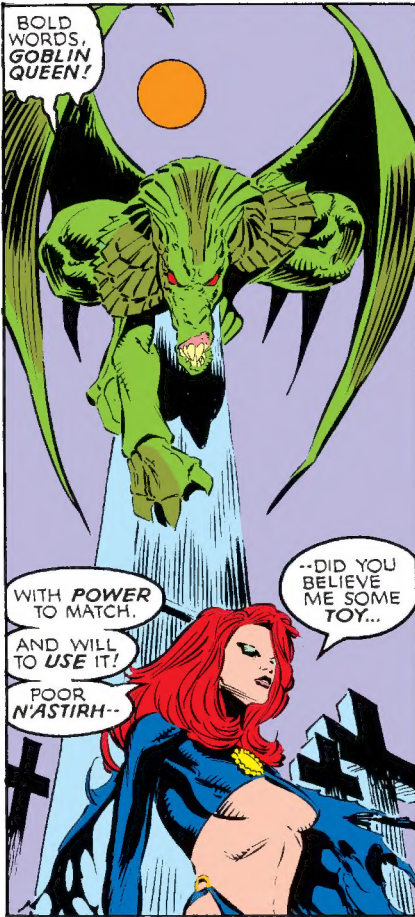
WILT THOU LOVE HER, COMFORT HER, HONOR AND KEEP HER IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH, AND, FORSAKING ALL OTHERS, KEEP THEE ONLY UNTO HER SO LONG AS YE BOTH SHALL LIVE?

I WILL.



L'AR!





BOLD WORDS, GOBLIN QUEEN!

WITH **POWER** TO MATCH.

AND WILL TO **USE** IT!

POOR N'ASTIRH--

--DID YOU BELIEVE ME SOME TOY...

...FIT ONLY FOR YOUR PLEASURE?

WHO... ARE YOU?!?

DON'T BOTHER DENYING IT, DEMON LORD, YOUR THOUGHTS ARE PITIFULLY TRANSPARENT.

...MY OWN WOMAN.

ALSO, YOUR EMPLOYER.

YOU HAVE NEWS FOR ME?

BY THE APPOINTED TIME, AT THE APPOINTED PLACE...

...ALL WILL BE AS YOU'VE COMMANDED.

SKRIK!



IT HAD BETTER BE.

OR YOU'LL ANSWER TO MY PETS.

chitter

SSRRAR



ISN'T IT NICE TO SEE THE PROFESSOR AND MRS. GREY...

...REDUCED TO THEIR DEMONIC ESSENCE.

WON'T THEIR BABY GIRL BE SO PLEASED?

SPEAKING OF BABIES, N'ASTIRH...

...I WANT **MINE**.

MY WORD IS BOND, MILADY.

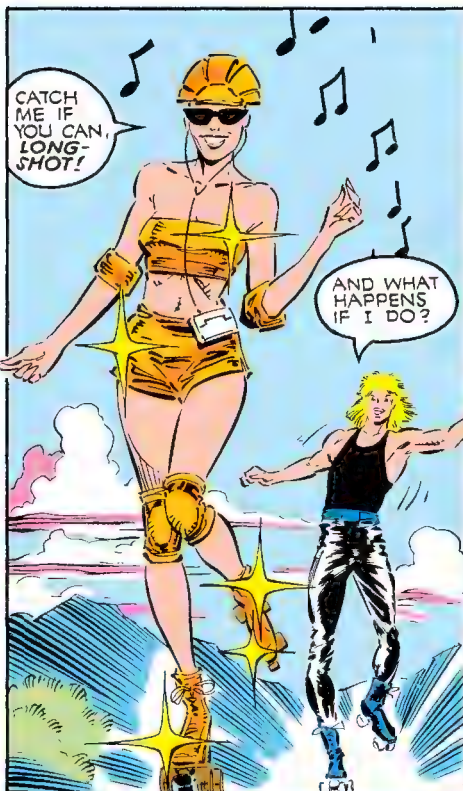
A MOST PROMISING LEAD HAS BEEN UNEARTHED.

IF YOUR DARKLING MAJESTY WILL BUT ACCOMPANY ME...?

AUSTRALIA--

-- ON THE DESERTED
DESERT ROAD
LEADING INTO THE
RUNDOWN, RAM-
SHACKLE TOWN...

...THE X-MEN
HAVE ADOPTED
AS THEIR OWN...



CATCH
ME IF
YOU CAN,
LONG
SHOT!

AND WHAT
HAPPENS
IF I DO?



WHO
KNOWS...
...MAYBE
YOU'LL
GET
REALLY
LUCKY!



DON'T
COUNT
ON IT--

--YOU
HUSSY!

Up!

FAMM

WAY
OH!



YOU MIND
TELLING ME,
ROGUE...

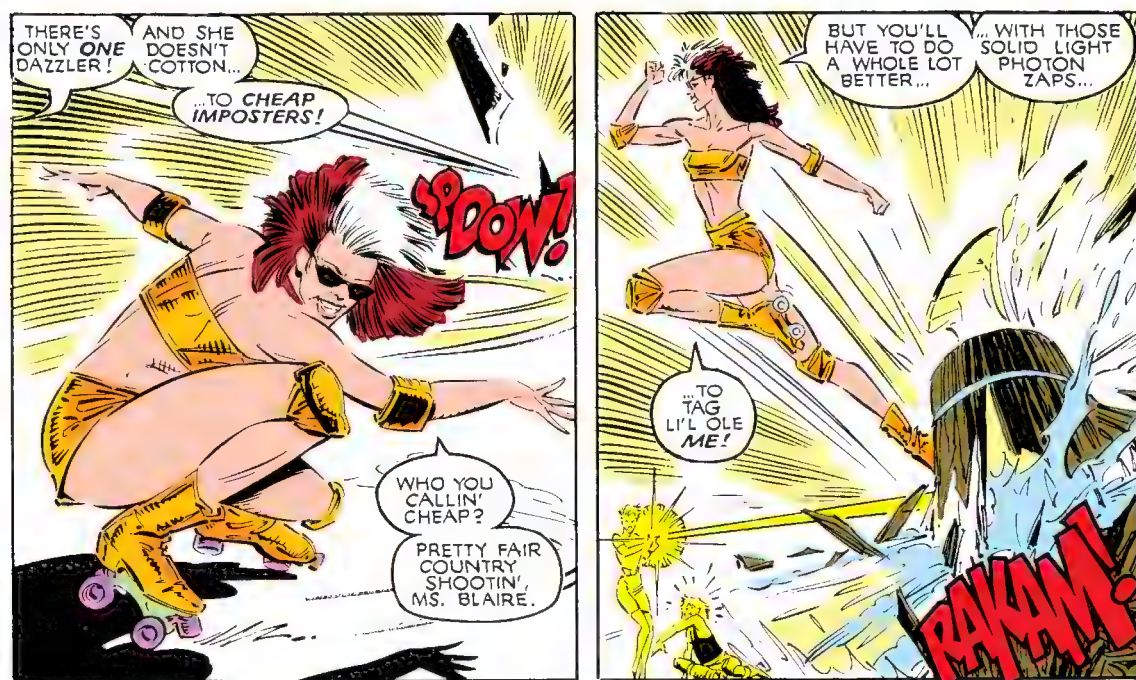
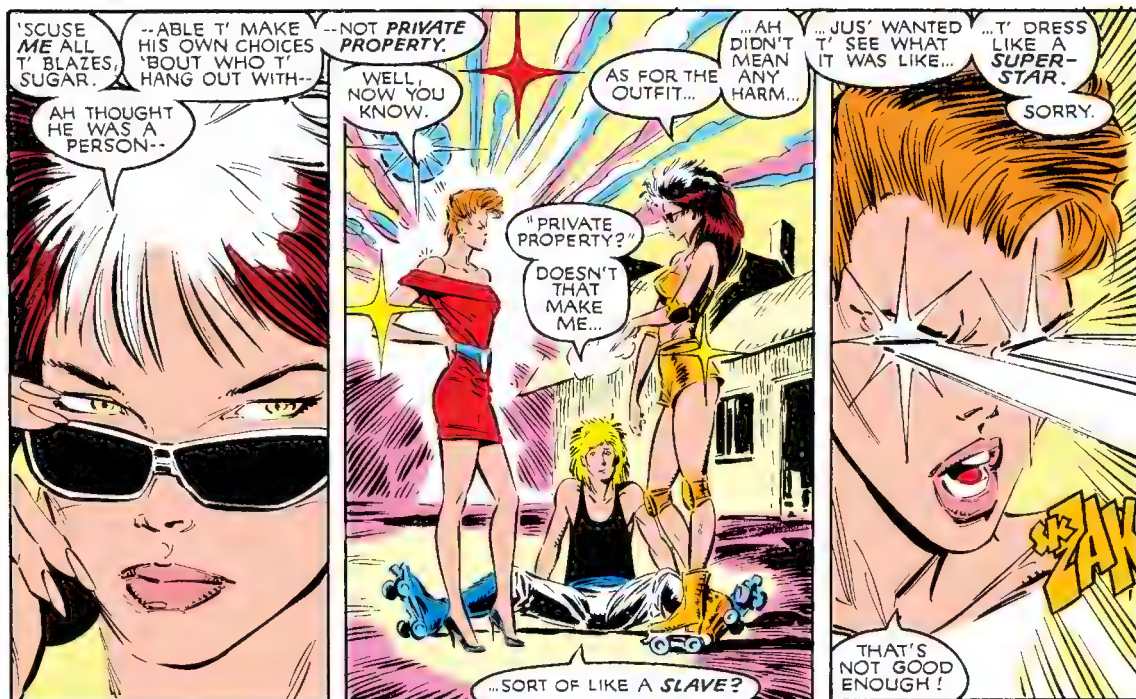
Uh-oh!

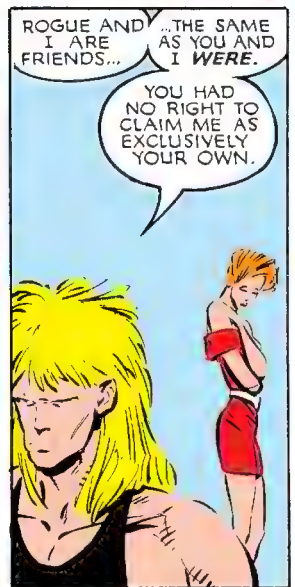
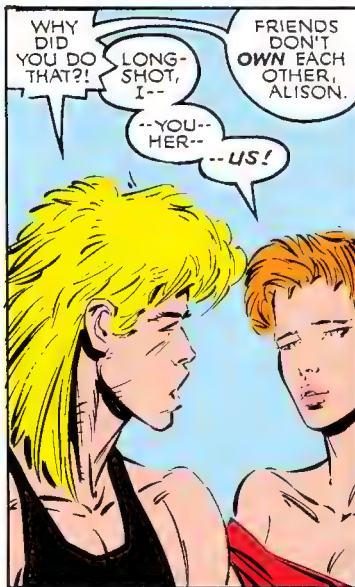
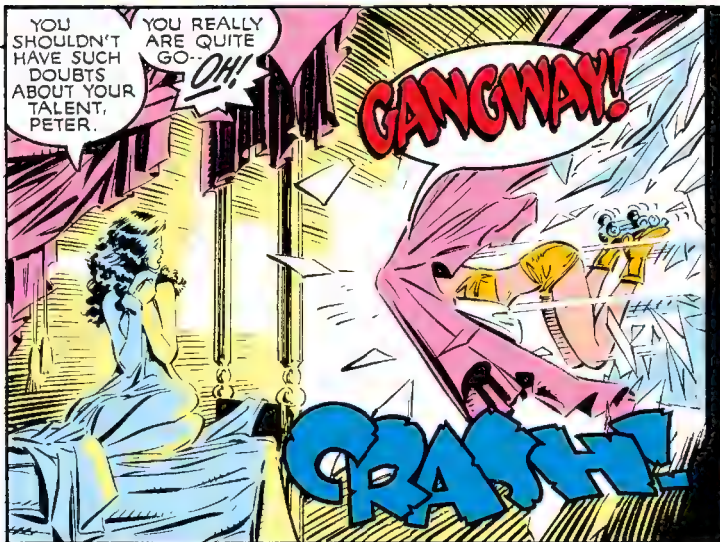
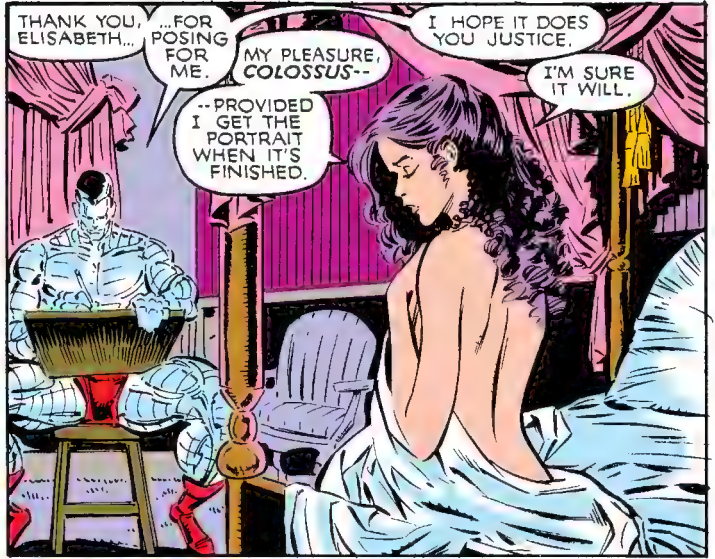
...WHAT
YOU'RE
DOING...



...WEARING MY
CLOTHES...

...AND
MAKING
TIME WITH
MY BOY-
FRIEND
?!!





OHHH, LONG-SHOT--

--WHAT YOU SAID MAY BE TRUE, BUT IT WASN'T NICE.

ALI MADE HER INTENTIONS PLAIN FROM THE START.

YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME.

FANTASTIC!

THE X-MEN ARE "INVISIBLE" TO EVERY SCANNING SYSTEM ON EARTH, EXCEPT OUR OWN, IN THE COMPLEX BURIED BENEATH THE TOWN.

AND WITH IT, I CAN NOT ONLY MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE OVER EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE FOR MILES AROUND...

... I CAN ACCESS ANY INTERNATIONAL DATA NETWORK I PLEASE.

THE COMPUTER CENTER'S PRETTY MUCH MADELYNE'S DOMAIN-- SHE CAN GET THESE ELECTRONIC BEASTS TO DO PRACTICALLY ANYTHING--

--BUT I AIN'T HALF-BAD MYSELF.

PAYDIRT!

Sniff!

Y'KNOW, IT CAN BE REALLY DISCONCERTING--

--STORM... WOLVERINE--

--THE WAY YOU SNEAK UP ON A BODY.

THAT'S OUR NATURE, BOY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, HAVOK?

WELL, BOSS--YOU KNOW HOW WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO TRACK DOWN THE MARAUDERS EVER SINCE WE SETTLED HERE...

... USING A SEARCH PROGRAM MADELYNE AND I DESIGNED.

I GUESS SHE'S BEEN TINKERING BY HERSELF LATELY-- WITH HARD- AND SOFTWARE BOTH-- THERE'VE BEEN SOME MAJOR CHANGES, EVEN I CAN'T QUITE FIGURE OUT--

-- BUT WHATEVER SHE DID... IT PAID OFF.

I THINK WE FOUND THEM.

IN THE "VALLEY"-- HOW APPROPRIATE.

THEY SLAUGHTERED THE MORLOCKS THERE...

...AN' FAIR CRIPPLED US.

PAST TIME, MY FRIENDS...

...WE PAID THEM BACK... IN KIND!

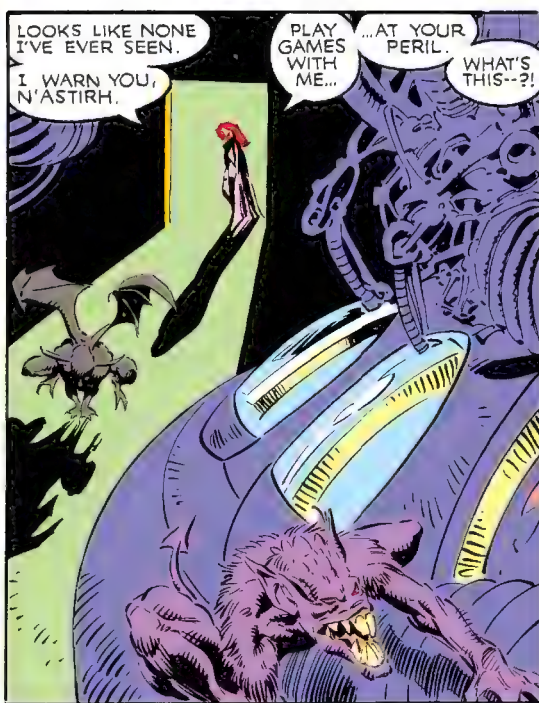


I'M HERE, N'ASTIRH--
WHEREVER THAT IS.

THE COLLOQUIAL
REFERENT IS
NEBRASKA.

THIS SPECIFIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
MODALITY IS
REFERRED
TO AS AN
"ORPHAN-AGE"...

...WHERE
YOUNGLINGS
OF YOUR
SPECIES
ARE RAISED
WHO HAVE
NO LIVING
PROGENITORS.



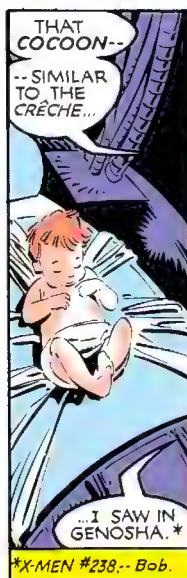
LOOKS LIKE NONE
I'VE EVER SEEN.

I WARN YOU,
N'ASTIRH.

PLAY
GAMES
WITH
ME...

...AT YOUR
PERIL.

WHAT'S
THIS--?!



THAT
COCOON--
--SIMILAR
TO THE
CRÊCHE...

...I SAW IN
GENOSHA.*

*X-MEN #238-- Bob.



IT'S
EMPTY.
SO
WHY...

...DO I
SEE A
BABY?!



MY
SON--
NO! THAT
CAN'T
BE--



--ME?!!?

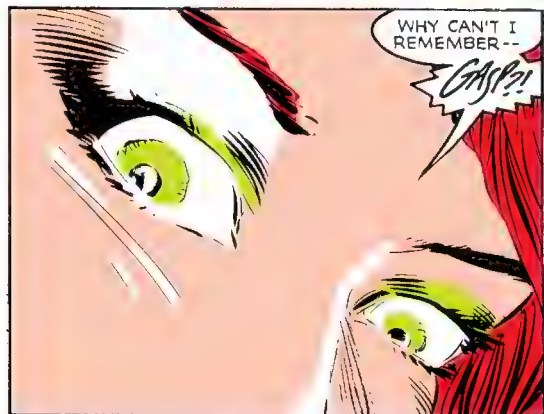


JUST LIKE AT
THE GRAVESITE.

SOMEHOW I'M
TAKING THE
IMAGES IN MY
MIND'S-EYE...

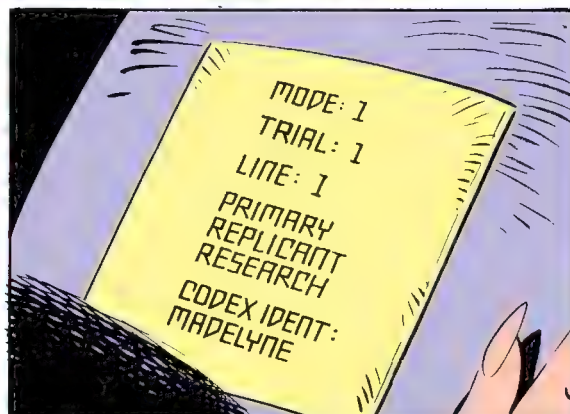
... AND
MAKING THEM
TANGIBLE.

BUT WHAT'S
MY CONNECTION
WITH THIS
PLACE?!



WHY CAN'T I
REMEMBER--

GASP?!



MODE: 1
TRIAL: 1
LINE: 1
PRIMARY
REPLICANT
RESEARCH
CODEX IDENT:
MADELYNE

MANHATTAN.

ONCE UPON A TIME--
AND, SADLY, NOT
SO LONG AGO--

--A BAND OF MUTANTS LIVED IN
THESE CATACOMBS-- A FORGOTTEN
NETWORK OF TUNNELS BURIED A
MILE AND MORE BENEATH THE
CITY STREETS.

THEY CALLED THEMSELVES MORLOCKS--
AFTER THE CHARACTERS IN H.G. WELLS'
CLASSIC NOVEL, THE TIME MACHINE--
AND ESSENTIALLY WANTED TO HAVE AS
LITTLE AS POSSIBLE TO DO...

...WITH A WORLD
THAT CARED EVEN
LESS ABOUT THEM.

AND THAT'S
THE WAY IT
REMAINED...

...UNTIL THE MARAUDERS CAME, TO KILL EVERYONE THEY
FOUND.

PRETTY IMPRESSIVE.

SEEN
BETTER.

NEVER GIVE AN
INCH, huh,
SABRE-
TOOTH?

TO ANYONE.
ABOUT
ANYTHING.

WHY SHOULD
I?

SCALPHUNTER--

--YOU AND
SABRE-
TOOTH...

...SCOUT
THE
"ALLEY"...

--MAKE SURE
THERE ARE NO
RATS LEFT IN
THIS WARREN.

YO--
POLARIS--

-- WHY'S
SINISTER
RELOCATIN'
US HERE,
ANYWAY?

OURS, SWEET
BLOCKBUSTER,
IS NOT TO
REASON WHY...

NOT EVEN A
LITTLE BIT
CURIOUS,
RIPTIDE?

ARLIGHT,
MY LOVE,
I TAKE MY
CUE...

...FROM WHAT
HAPPENED TO THE
PROVERBIAL CAT.

SMART
FELLA.

WHAT'S YOUR
COMPLAINT,
PRISM?

DON'T WE
MARAUDERS HAVE
AT LEAST AS
MANY LIVES?

WAIT'LL
YOUR
NUMBER
COMES UP,
SCRAMBLER.

MAYBE
YOU WON'T
CRACK SO
WISE, THEN.



BIGMOUTH LI'L KOREAN KNOWITALL...
...ALWAYS PUSHIN', ALWAYS NEEDLIN'...

...THINKS HE'S SO HOT--
--SOMEDAY, HE'LL GET HIS.



YO, PRISM-- JUICE UP YOUR GLOW, BRO'!

SO DARK DOWN THISAWAYS, A BODY CAN'T SEE--

OWWW!



YOU WANNA LIGHT, BUB?



YOU ARE A MARAUDER?

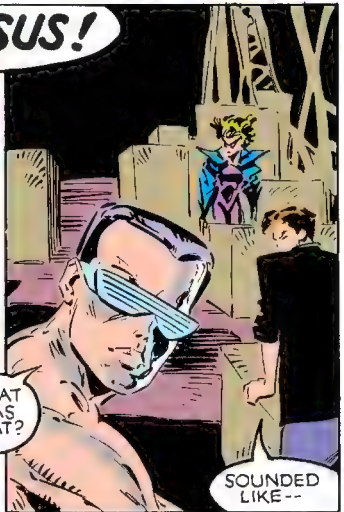
Lk-huh.

HOW ARE YOU CALLED, PLEASE?

BLOCK-BUSTER.

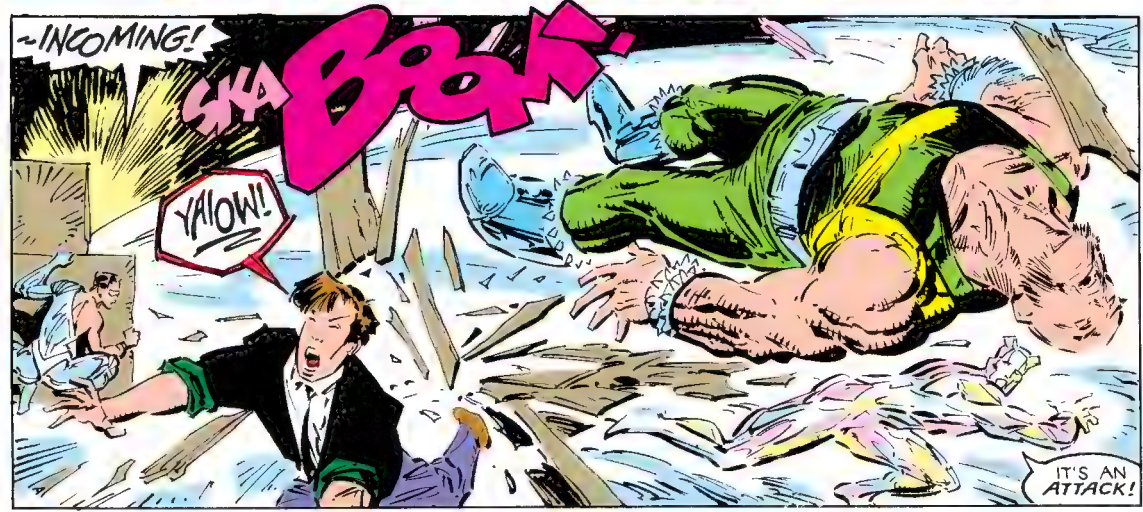


I AM **COLOSSUS!**



WHAT WAS THAT?

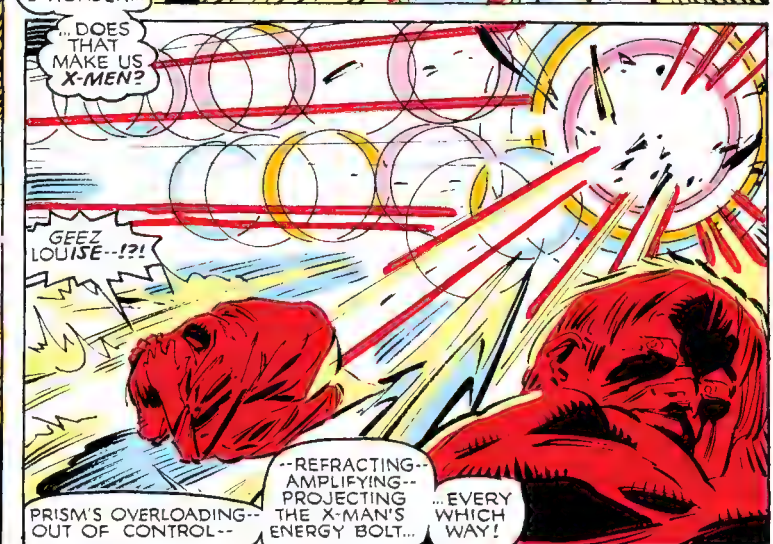
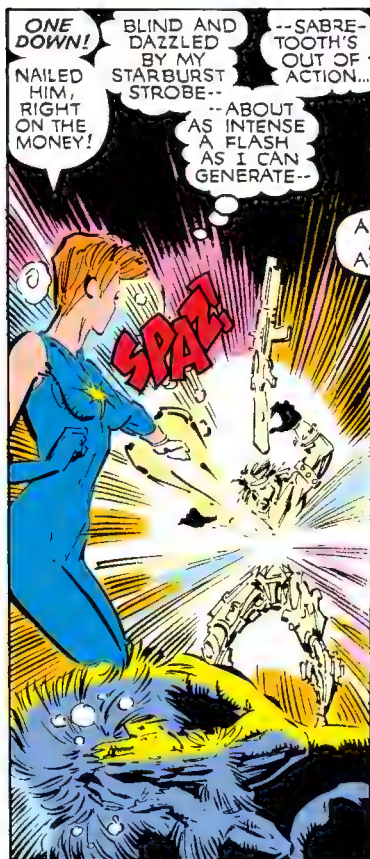
SOUNDED LIKE--

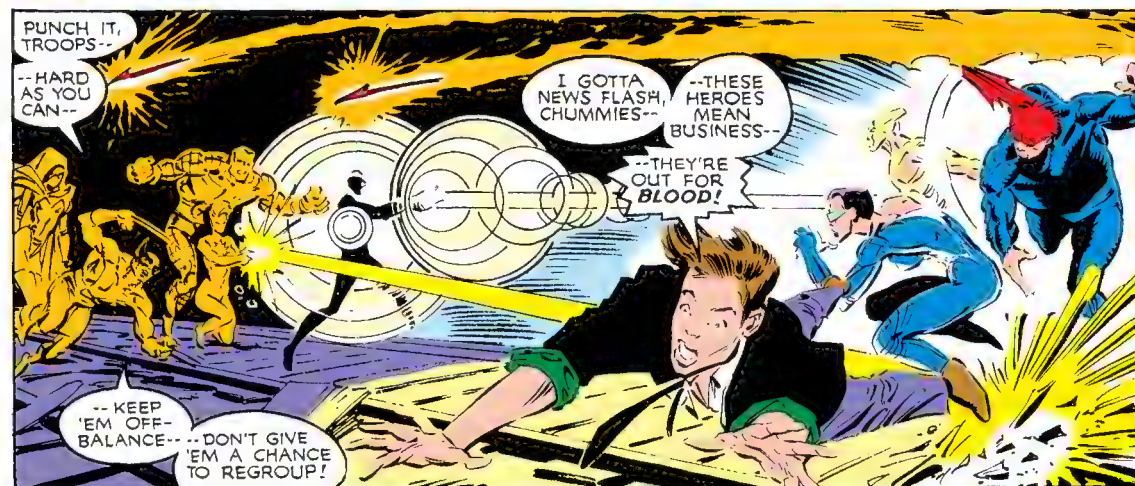
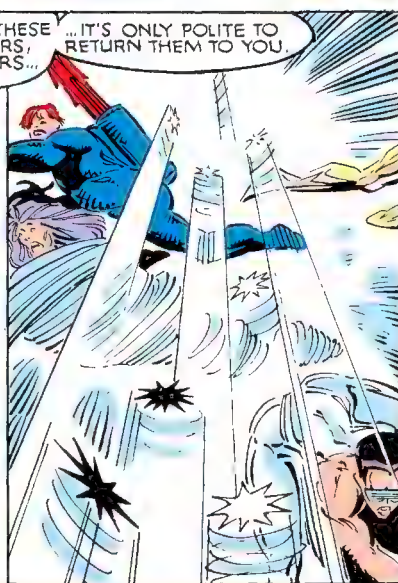
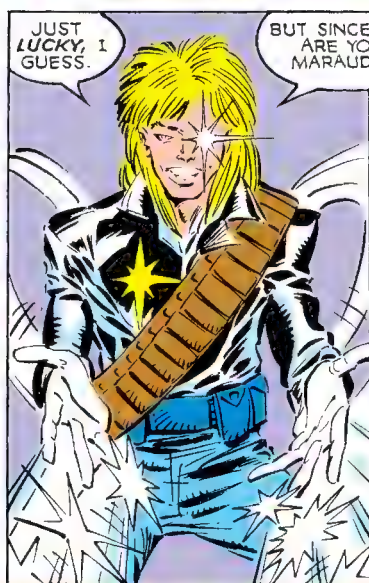
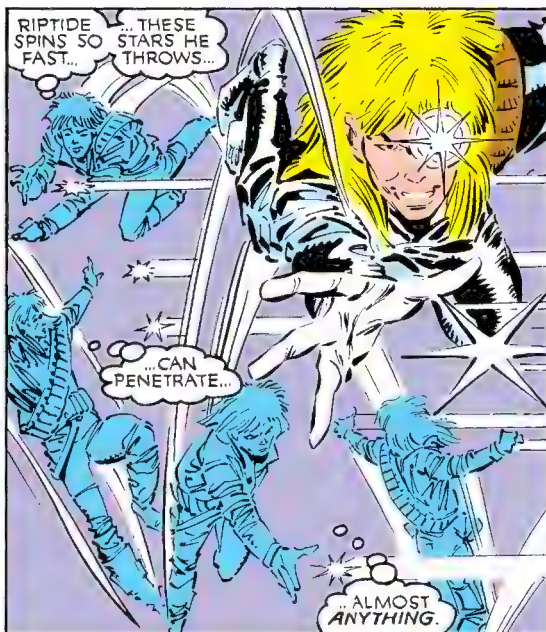


~INCOMING!

YAWOW!

IT'S AN ATTACK!







THAT
COMMIE
PALOOKA,
HE HITS
PRETTY
GOOD.

BUT
THAT'S
OKAY...
...CUZ SO
DO I!

CAN'T
WAIT TO
GET MY
MITTS ON
HI

YEAH! EFF!

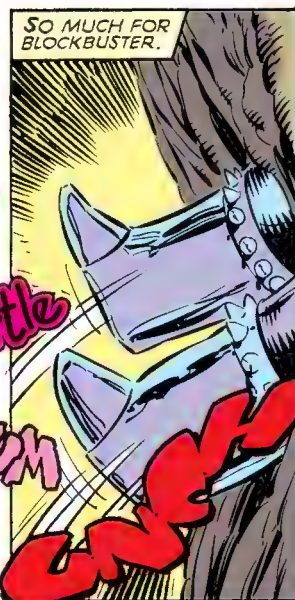


GRAB

GRAB

SNAKE
CHORTLE

YUM



SO MUCH FOR
BLOCKBUSTER.



CREEP



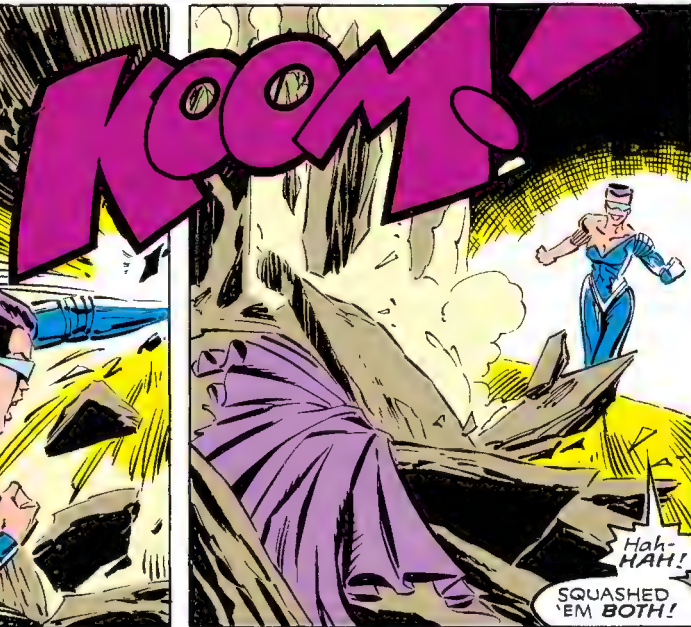
HIS TEAMMATES, HOWEVER, APPEAR
TO BE FARING SOMEWHAT BETTER.

ARLIGHT--

--USIN'
HER B-52
PUNCH...

...TO SET UP
SHOCKWAVES...

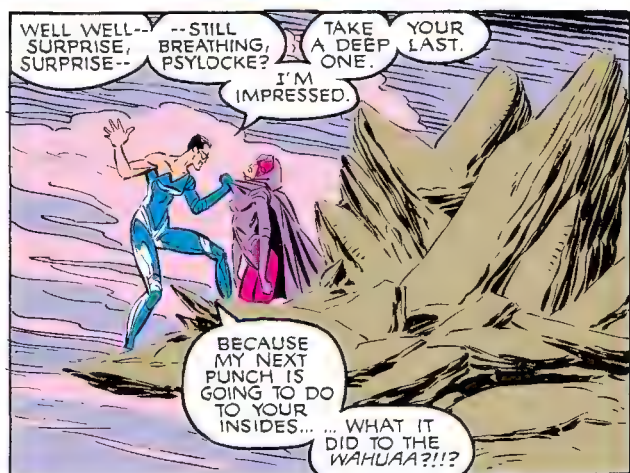
...THAT'S
COLLAPSIN'
THE
TUNNEL!



KOOM!

Hah-
HAH!

SQUASHED
'EM BOTH!



WELL--
SURPRISE--
SURPRISE--

--STILL
BREATHING,
PSYLOCKE?

TAKE
A DEEP
ONE.

YOUR
LAST.

I'M
IMPRESSED

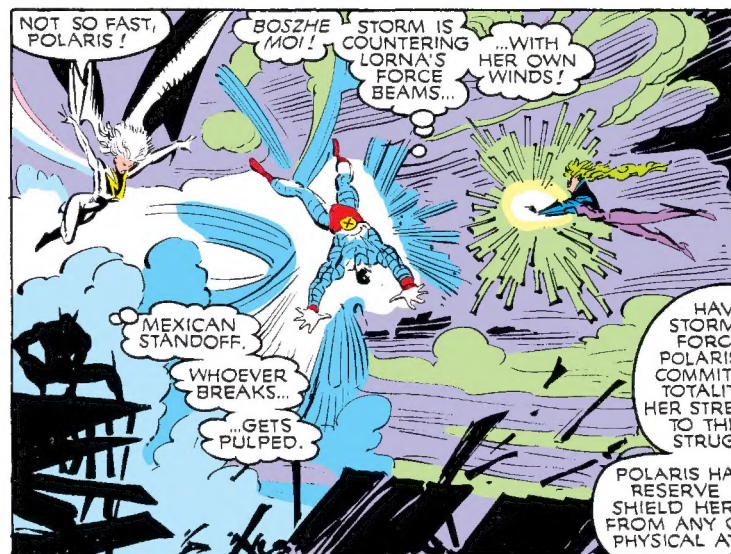
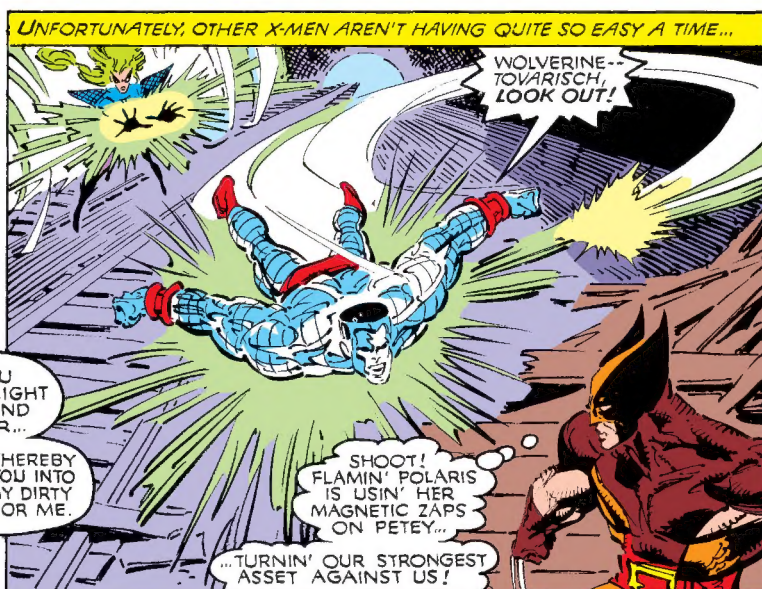
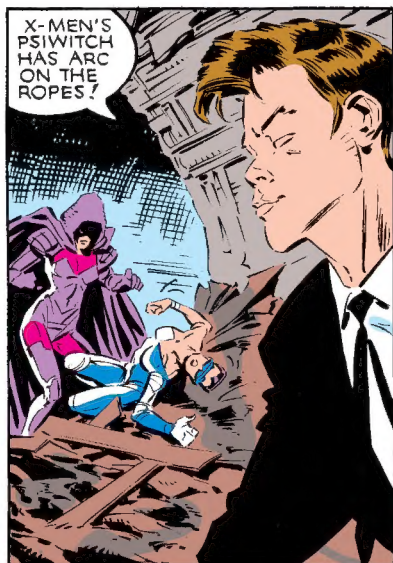
BECAUSE
MY NEXT
PUNCH IS
GOING TO DO
TO YOUR
INSIDES...

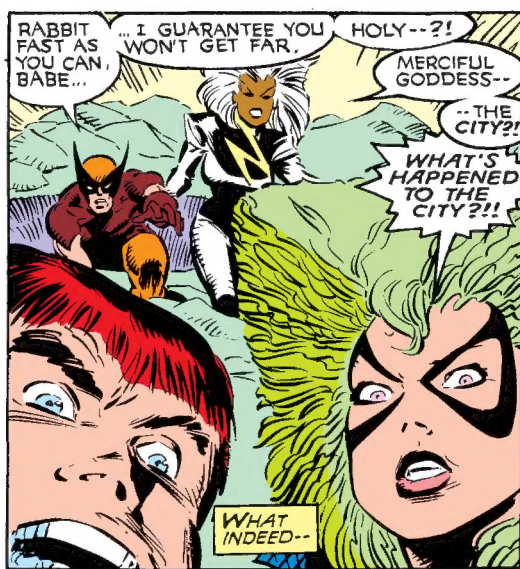
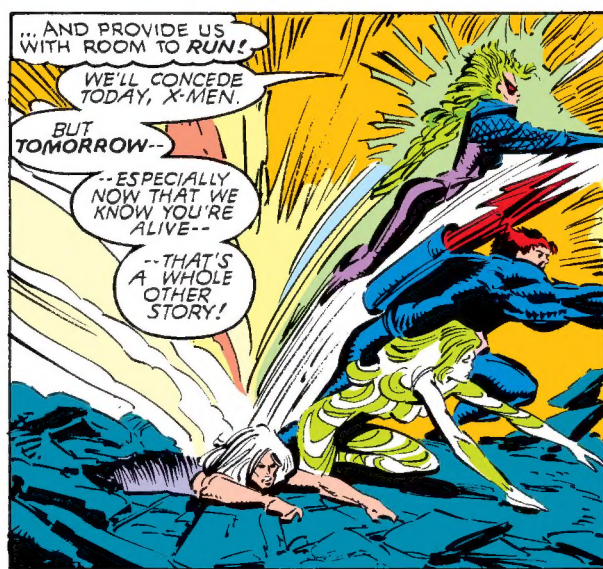
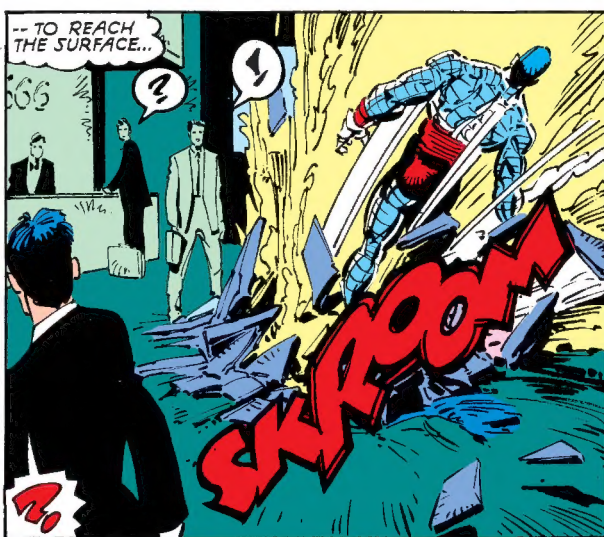
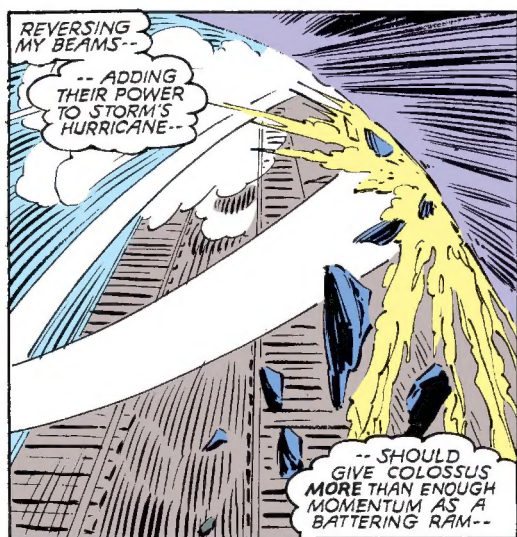
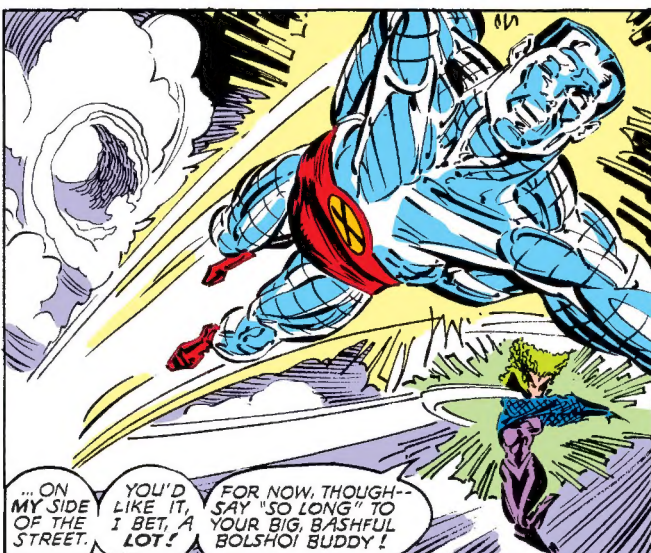
... WHAT IT
DID TO THE
WAHUAH?!?!

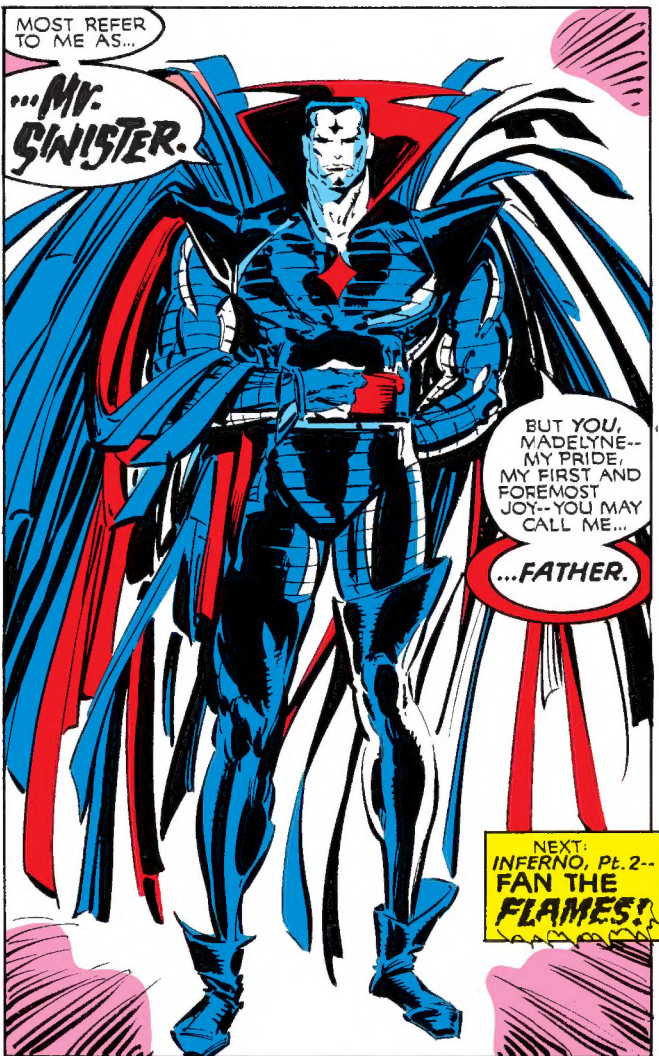
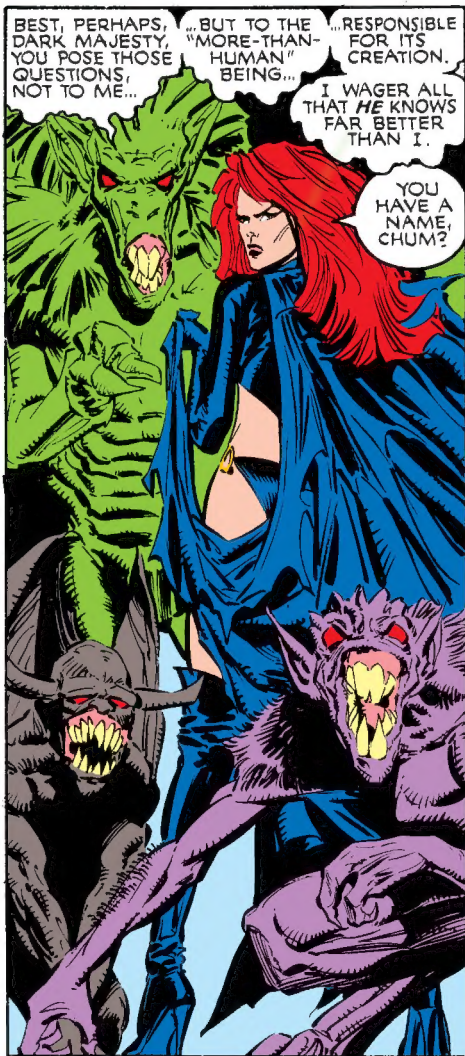
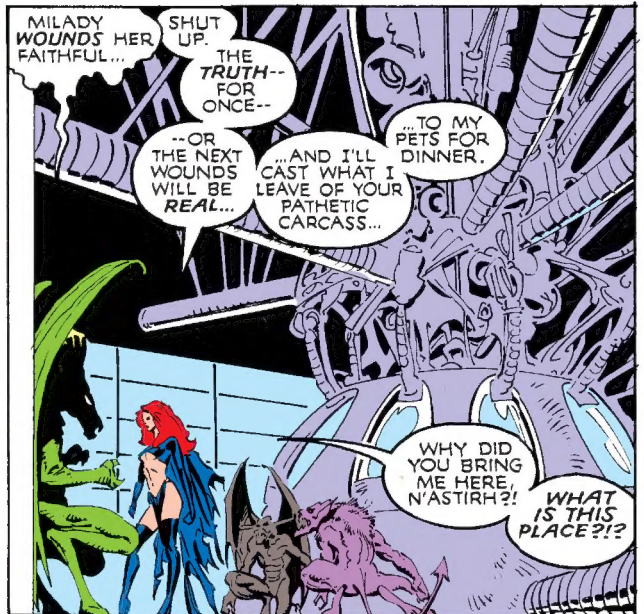


CAN'T ACT
WITHOUT
THOUGHT,
MARAUER.

AND
THAT'S
MY
DOMAIN!









MINUTEMEN

Bluntman